

Amendment A  
Application No. 10/709,617  
Response Dated July 26, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of June 28, 2005  
Attorney Docket No.: 717228.9

**REMARKS**

Applicant elects with traverse Group 1 of the Claims which includes Claims 1-17 and 25-27, which election is made with traverse.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's comments in support of the restriction requirement. However, it is submitted respectfully, that the reasons given are merely conclusory and provide no analysis or detail as required and are therefore legally deficient. It is submitted that the reasons provided for the restriction requirement are not well founded. A detailed review of Claims 1 and 18, for example, show that there is essentially a one to one correlation between of the elements of Claims 1 and 18. For example, there is a magazine and a depositor defined in Claim 1, while in Claim 18, there is a step of depositing. There is a conveyor system defined in Claim 1, while there is a requirement in Claim 18 for conveying the carriers in a row on a conveyor system. Claim 1 sets forth a glue depositor, while Claim 18 sets forth the step of depositing glue. Claim 1 sets forth a source of cover strips while Claim 18 sets forth the applying of a carrier strip. Claim 1 sets forth an applicator adapted to apply a cover strip to the carriers to contact the glue, while Claim 18 provides adhesively securing the cover strip to its respective group of carriers. Thus, it is submitted that the apparatus of Claim 1 cannot practice a process materially different from that disclosed in Claim 18, and the process defined in Claim 18 cannot be practiced with a materially different apparatus as, for example, set forth in Claim 1. Thus, it is submitted that the restriction requirement is in error. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the restriction requirement.

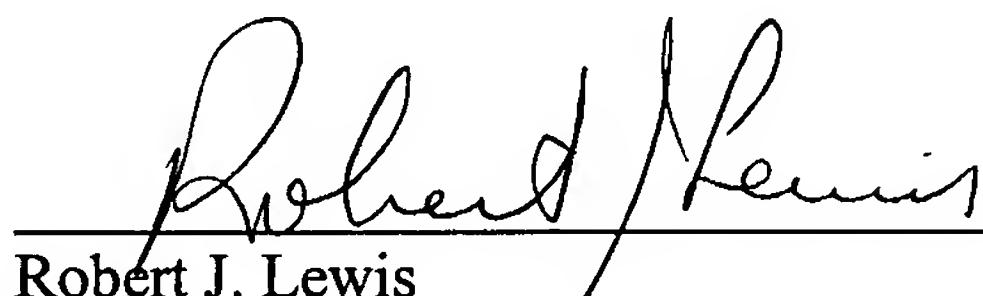
Amendment A  
Application No. 10/709,617  
Response Dated July 26, 2005  
Reply to Office Action of June 28, 2005  
Attorney Docket No.: 717228.9

Some typographical errors were found in the Claims which have been corrected. The corrections to the Claims are not made for purposes of patentability but rather are made to correct typographical errors.

If any issue regarding the allowability of any of the pending claims in the present application could be readily resolved, or if other action could be taken to further advance this application such as an Examiner's amendment, or if the Examiner should have any questions regarding the present amendment, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner please telephone Applicant's undersigned attorney in this regard.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 26, 2005

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert J. Lewis  
Reg. No. 27,210  
Blackwell Sanders Peper Martin LLP  
720 Olive Street, 24<sup>th</sup> Floor  
St. Louis, Missouri 63101  
(314) 345-6000

ATTORNEYS FOR APPLICANT